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BRISCOE BRIEFS



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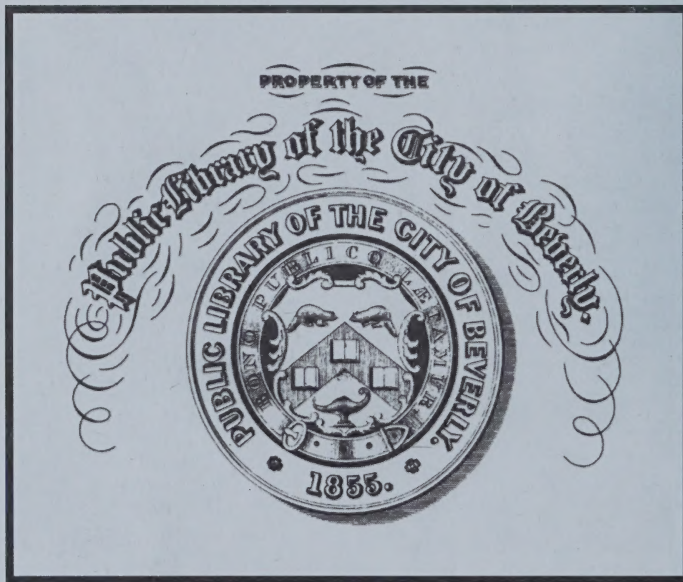
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Briscoe Briefs

A school paper issued by the students of the Briscoe School
Beverly, Massachusetts

Vol. VII., No. 1

December, 1932

Price 15 Cents

Christmas Number



MEMBER OF THE COLUMBIA SCHOLASTIC PRESS ASSOCIATION

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THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON

THE GOVERNOR

It gives me pleasure on behalf of the Commonwealth to extend to the pupils and faculty members of the Briscoe School and to the citizens of Beverly my cordial greetings and best wishes.

We are passing through serious conditions, nation-wide -- yes, world-wide, but it is my conviction that we are now witnessing the dawn of a better day. My message to you all, therefore, is "Be of good courage".

I wish you a happy Christmas and may the New Year surround you with peace and many blessings.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joseph B. Ely".

December 25, 1932

*Reproduction of Letter sent by his Excellency Joseph B. Ely
Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts*



NOEL



THE FIRST CHRISTMAS GIFT

IT was the first glad Christmas night. In all the years before, called B. C., there had never been a Christmas. No one had ever heard of Christmas gifts. The Christmas Spirit was an unknown phrase. Little boys and girls, the world over, kissed their mothers and fathers and went fast asleep, never dreaming that particular night was to be the beginning of new life and new hope for mankind.

Darkness crept up over the hills and a hush fell upon the little town of Bethlehem. One by one, the stars appeared in the evening sky, when suddenly a bright new star shone forth. Very soon every one learned the significance of this new star — the birth of a child who was to be the Saviour of all people. From the heavens above, the angels sang "Glory to God in the Highest; on Earth, Peace and Good Will Toward Men," and this was the origin of the Christmas spirit.

The shepherds and Wise Men hastened to the manger in Bethlehem to see the baby, Jesus. When they beheld the Infant Saviour, they fell on their knees and thanked the Heavenly Father for the wonderful gift of a Christmas Child. The Wise Men presented Him with their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

On Christmas Day, 1932, let us, like the shepherds and Wise Men of old, thank God for the gift of the Christ Child, and let us show our love for Him by striving to keep the Christmas rule, "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men."

—HELEN LEWIS, *Grade 8.*

* * * * *

CHRISTMAS SEALS

FOR twenty-six years the Health Christmas Seals have been issued during the month of December.

These stamps are sold throughout the United States for the benefit of tubercular children. The money raised from stamps sold in Beverly is used for the local children at the Middleton Health Camp. Due to the economic depression of the past two years, more than the usual number of children in Beverly are now living under such poor conditions that the need of funds for the consumptive child is especially urgent now.

Let us during the Christmas season give a thought to these unfortunate children, and help them along the road to happiness and health by buying Christmas seals.

—STEPHEN E. WOODBURY, *Grade 8.*

* * * * *

NOTE

EVERYONE at Briscoe feels quite proud to think that His Excellency, Joseph B. Ely, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, has written a Christmas message for our magazine. We greatly appreciate his kindness because we know his duties as governor of our state keep him very busy.

—HELEN LEWIS, *Editor-in-Chief.*

Faith

ONE of the experts on the subject of depression says that what we need is faith. Faith in God, in our country, in our state, in our friends, and in ourselves.

Columbus had that faith. Through all the years of hardships, suffering, and disappointments, he had faith. That is, he believed that the world was round. He believed that somewhere he would get money to buy ships and pay sailors. Even in prison he had faith. He believed that some day people would realize the importance of his expedition. And his prophecy came true. We celebrate Columbus Day each year and sing the praises of this great man in many ways.

If we follow Columbus' example of faith, we will have the courage to rise above the difficulties which many of us are facing today.

—HELEN HOLLOWAY, *Grade 8.*

Letter to the Editor

Briscoe School
Beverly, Massachusetts
December 7, 1932

Dear Editor-in-Chief,

May I suggest some ways in which the pupils of Briscoe might help the City of Beverly to save money or stretch the school funds as far as possible. Some pupils at Briscoe are already helping in this work, but if 100 per cent of the pupils would concentrate on saving, I am sure that the citizens of Beverly would appreciate their thoughtfulness. These are my suggestions:

1. Use paper sparingly (use scrap paper for all trial or practice work).
2. Keep pens, pencils, and rulers in good condition. (Do not chew or bang them.)
3. Use electricity and water only when needed.

4. Take good care of your books and other school property. (Do not mark or damage in any way.)
5. Promptness, obedience, respect, and co-operation with the teachers and principal would be a saving in time, and *time saved is money saved.*

If we all follow these suggestions, the City of Beverly will be proud of its thrifty Briscoe pupils.

Very sincerely yours,

MYRA HERRICK, *Grade 8.*

Louisa May Alcott

THE hundredth anniversary of the birth of Louisa May Alcott, whose *Little Women* keeps her memory ever fresh among both children and grown-ups, is now being widely observed.

"Our Louisa," as many people now call Louisa May Alcott, was a splendid type of woman. From birth until the age of twenty-eight, she lived the life of a real girl. Her honest straight-forward book, *Little Women*, which, in reality, was the story of her life, expressed the wholesomeness of her childhood.

In her earlier years, Louisa experienced many hard struggles, but her cheerful manner and grim determination to be somebody of note, helped her to create her many successful books. As a woman, Louisa Alcott lived the same beautiful life of her girlhood — loving, giving, and advising; and her many years of sacrifice were filled with countless experiences of happiness.

Although her books are not so widely read by the children of today as they were in the preceding generation, yet her life is well known to every child in America, and still serves to inspire boys and girls with courage to make the best of their opportunities.

—BARBABA STAPLES, *Grade 8.*



An Ideal Christmas Night

DARKNESS closed in, wrapping the small village in a blanket. Slowly, one by one, the small stars peeped out from the heavens above, and the white moon silently crept over the black hills. Snow, like white feathers, floated through the cold atmosphere of the night air. Through the white frosted windows, the bright lights of the Christmas tree glowed, and the red flame of the fire lighted up the large room. Outside, winding their way through the narrow streets in a brightly colored sleigh, were the young and old folks enjoying the quiet beauty of it all. Then home they drove to sit in front of the warm fire and to gaze into the glowing embers and watch the logs crackle and snap. Slowly the bright lights faded, the fire died down, and the quiet village was locked in solitude.

—SHIRLEY HUBBARD, *Grade 8.*

The Santa Claus Letter

SPEEDING by snow-clad fields and meadows, Andrew Garrison sat in the Pullman car awaiting his morning meal. Christmas was coming in a few days.

How he longed to be at home with his family again to share the joys of the Christmas festival! He knew he was not wanted though. He had been away twenty years but it seemed like fifty to him. He longed to see his mother and father again, and he wondered if his youngest brother had married. He had not heard from them for over ten years.

Just then the porter came in with the *Morning Post* and obtained his order for breakfast.

On looking over the paper, Garrison came across many items that interested him, such as,

"Peter Berry, Promoted to Position as President of National Bank," "Grovenor Page, One of Three Hurt in Explosion."

"Poor old Grovenor," said Garrison to himself. "Well do I remember the time we played hooky from school! As for Pete, I wish him the best of luck in his new position, and hope he will make good."

After turning many pages of the paper, he came to the "Post Santa Claus" page in which he had always shown an interest even as a child. The first and second letters were very sad, but it was the third one which attracted his attention. It read—

Dear Post Santa,

Please try to bring me a doll, and my brother a cart. We aren't going to have a good Christmas dinner because Daddy can't afford it. And if you happen to come across my Uncle Andrew, please send him home. I have never seen him, but would like to have him home for Christmas. There will be a Christmas candle burning in the front bay window to lead him home. Thank you.

With hope,

Betty Garrison.

A light came across Andrew Garrison's countenance as he finished the letter. He was so happy that he could scarcely sit still the rest of the trip, and as he excitedly packed his bag before the train pulled in at the South Station, he murmured happily to himself, "Now for that candle and little Betty Garrison."

PEARL MARTIN, *Grade 8.*

The Meaning of Yule

IF WE were in England now, we would probably hear expressions such as "Yule Tide" and "Yule Log." In olden times we would have heard "Yule Candle" or "Yule Cake," and in very olden times, "Yule Dough."

I suppose you are wondering what all these expressions mean. "Yuletide" means Christmas Time. This expression originated in England and in the Scandinavian countries and is still in common use there.

Next comes "Yule Log." It is said that this is a corruption of "Ale Log." The lords of the castles used to allow their servants and friends to drink their best or strongest ale as long as the "Yule Log" burned. The lords' servants, of course, cut the largest log they could find in the lords' forests. The ashes of the logs were thought to be sacred or blessed, so they were gathered with care and mixed with the cattle's food in the strong belief that this would keep the cattle well.

The "Yule Candle" was burned by the common people or by those who could not get a sacred log. This resulted in neighborly gatherings at the houses of those who had the candles.

The "Yule Dough" was cut out in the form of a boy or girl and baked into a "Yule Baby" as it was called. It was the custom of the bakers to present these to their customers.

Yule is spelled in many ways, such as "yowle," "ewle," "yeule," "yule" and "howle." Some writers have said that it was called "yowling time" or the time for making noise and being festive and merry.

—HELEN HOLLOWAY, *Grade 8.*

The Mystery Man

THE cub reporter of the *Tattle Times* hid behind a post near the entrance at Briscoe School and waited. He was there to solve a mystery. The editor of his paper had found a description and had given the solving of it to young Johnson as his first assignment. The description read as follows:

"A tall man weighing about one hundred and seventy pounds—light brown wavy hair, greying at the temples—vivid blue eyes that sometimes twinkle and sometimes flash fire. His interest in his work helps him to carry out new ideas. He always lends a helping hand when needed. He is very fond of sports. A good-hearted fellow to those who "play the game fair." He cures those who are too conceited and those who are too careless. He is father, teacher, leader, adviser, and comforter of those who are under his care."

Johnson waited at the door watching the people, old and young, as they entered the building, but no one resembled the person described. In a few moments a man walked by him and the cub reporter followed him to an office in the school. The reporter sized him up, and immediately thought the man had the qualifications of the description. Johnson listened closely and overheard this man talking to a Briscoe student about "Playing the Game Fair." Then Johnson shouted joyfully, "Ah! that's my man,—Mr. Cronin."

—LAWRENCE RUBENSTEIN, *Grade 8*

—HELEN LEWIS, *Grade 8.*

Christmas comes but once a year,
And with it comes a heap of cheer,
So light your candle and be gay
And have a merry Christmas Day.

FRED P. BROWNING, *Grade 7.*



POETRY

Christmas Bells

Sweetly tingling, sweetly ringing,
O'er the cold, crisp winter air,
Floats the sound of silver trumpets,
Silver bells so clear and rare.
Soft they come from out the heavens,
Clearly ring and softly hum,
Sweetly tingling, sweetly ringing,
O'er the land of dreams they come.

Sweetly tingling, sweetly ringing,
High up in the wintry sky,
For the hands of angels ring them,
Bringing thoughts of days gone by.
When the Saviour came to help us,
Softly did the glad bells ring;
Out across our lives this evening,
The bells of Christmas sweetly ring.

—ELSIE FARLEY, *Grade 8.*

The Day Before Christmas

'Twas the day before Christmas, and all
through the school

Not a pupil was studying, nor minding
a rule;

While down in the hall was a tall Christ-
mas tree,

And all of the pupils were chock full of
glee;

Then down to the hall, came our friend
with a sigh,

"There's not any homework, so don't you
dare cry!"

The pupils, all laughing, praised the kind-
ness he'd done,

And cheered him and cheered him,
ev-er-y one;

Then all of a sudden, the Christmas bells
rang,

And all of the pupils rushed out with a
bang.

—PHILIP BEAULIEU, *Grade 8.*

Christmas Is Here

Christmas is here,
With bells and good cheer.
The woods they resound
From the hills to the town,
Dispelling the gloom.

The guests have arrived,
And soon they'll contrive
To joyously dance,
Or solemnly prance,
Around the bright room.

Then comes the tree —
All are gay and carefree,
Their presents galore.
Find room on the floor.

Will Santa come soon?

—PRISCILLA POPE, *Grade 8.*

The Carol Singers

Carols float through the bleak, cold air,
The Carolers' tones are mellow and rare;
They sing of the Christ who was born long
ago

In a manger so lowly on earth here below.
The Carolers' forms in the dim light
appear —

Like the angels of old who sang of good
cheer;

And the heart of a weary one grows cheer-
ful and gay

As the Carolers sing of that first Christmas
Day.

—SHIRLEY HUBBARD, *Grade 8.*

Christmas Excitement

Oh, those boxes in the store room,
And the packages on the stairs!
The rooms are bright and cheery,
And there's mystery in the air.
The windows are decked with holly;
There's a wreath upon the door.
Everyone's so jolly,
Christmas is here once more!

—HELEN HOUSTON, *Grade 8.*

The Icicle

A long and slender icicle
Was hanging from the eave,
Cold and wet with ice and snow,
Getting ready to leave.
Suddenly with a crash and roar,
It tumbled to the ground,
Breaking and melting it disappeared,
Without another sound.

—BETTY ENOS, *Grade 8.*

A Traffic Tragedy

A screech of brakes,
A muttered curse,
Red lights staring you in the face.
A policeman's whistle,
A bellow of horns,
A mad rush for safety,
A turmoil is born.
The scream of a woman;
All scramble in haste,
The traffic resumes its terrific pace.
The turmoil ceases,
The ambulance sounds,
They lift the victim from the ground.

—DAVID LUNT, *Grade 8.*

My Brook

There's a brook
Behind our house
It means so much to me;
It winds about,
All in and out,
And flows down to the sea.

Long years ago,
So I've heard say,
The waters turned a wheel
That ran a mill,
Where care and skill
Soon ground the corn to meal.

How very strange
Some things can be!
The mill has long since gone;
The years go by,
And people die,
But my brook still flows on.

—STEPHEN E. WOODBURY, *Grade 8.*

Briscoe Ifs

If you can do the thing that's set before
you
With *Promptness* and dispatch that merits
praise;
If you can show *Intelligence* in all the work
you do
And prove that strict *Obedience* always
pays;
If you can practice *Safety* every hour
And show *Respect* at all times through the
day;
If you can do your work with proper
Honor
And learn and act the meaning of *Fair*
Play;
If you'll be *Loyal* — without hesitation,
Be of *Service* to yourself and others too,
For in line with what we call *Co-operation*
Is the will to help the other fellow through.
If you can do all this, then all your toiling
Will stand rewarded when your duty's
done;
And you will be a citizen worth knowing
When the race at Dear Old Briscoe has
been run.

—BARBARA STAPLES, *Grade 8.*



SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

THEODORE DAY

Inauguration of The New Advisory Council

"B—BE PROMPT—" sang the Briscoe School Alphabet bearers as they marched on the stage with much pomp and ceremony. There were seven boys in all, each dressed in a smart looking uniform, and bearing a large letter. When the boys stood in a row, the letters spelled the word, Briscoe.

This was one feature of the assembly given at the Briscoe School, on Friday morning, October 7, 1932. It was a serious assembly and very impressive. The purposes of the assembly were, first, to bring out the ideals of Briscoe; and secondly, for the induction of the new Advisory Council. Miss Helen Anderson, teacher of science, was in charge of the assembly.

Mayor James A. Torrey and Neiland Douglas, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, were the guests of honor.

The cast of characters was as follows:

Spirit of Briscoe-Marguerite Daley; Spirit of Grade Eight-George Olson; Spirit of Grade Seven-William McMahon; Honor-Myrtle Beck; Fair Play-Elsie Farley; Service-Pauline Whitaker; Honor Spirits-Constance Eldred, Ann Bonaventura, Barbara Brooks, Helen Lewis, Myra Herrick; Fair Play Spirits-Arlene Whittemore, Priscilla Parsons, Eileen Brophy, Barbara Staples, Ernestine Wilson; Briscoe Alphabet-"B"-Stephen Woodbury, "R"-Norman Cobb, "I"-James Maguire, "S"-William Bursaw, "C"-Richard Collins, "O"-Robert Stone, "E"-Robert Perkins.

—ATEA INCAMPO, *Grade 8.*

Parents' Night

THE tramp of many feet and the sound of many voices echoed through the halls at Briscoe as the 690 visitors were ushered to the classes on Parents' Night, November 16, 1932. From 7.00 to 8.15 p.m., regular class periods were conducted in the different rooms. The pupils were then dismissed and the parents went to the hall for an assembly.

The October Assembly, under the direction of Miss Helen Anderson, was repeated for the parents; the only change in the play was the talks by representatives of the various clubs at Briscoe instead of the induction of the new advisory council members.

As a part of the assembly, James A. Cronin, principal of the Briscoe School, explained to the parents the necessity of homework for the pupils of Briscoe.

—HELEN HOLLOWAY, *Grade 8.*

The Magi's Gift

THE Briscoe School Glee Clubs, under the direction of Miss Robbins, presented a Christmas operetta, "The Magi's Gift," to the public on Wednesday evening, December 21. The dress rehearsal was given on Tuesday afternoon at 3.30 for pupils of the other schools in Beverly.

The Briscoe pupils witnessed the operetta as their regular Christmas Assembly on Friday afternoon, December 23.

The following pupils took the leading parts: John Shaw, Betty Yeo, Betty Williams, Minerva Pelligrini, James McGuire, Ruth May, John Reilley, Esther Caldwell, Herbert Martin, William Burke; and they were assisted by the Boys' and Girls' Glee Clubs.

Miss Robbins was given valuable assistance by the members of the faculty, Mrs. Greenleaf, and Mrs. Murray.

Before The Thanksgiving Game

B. H. S. cheers issued from behind the closed stage curtain, much to the curiosity of the pupils of the Briscoe School, as they waited eagerly for the Thanksgiving play, "A Mistaken Identity," given on Wednesday morning, November 23.

As the curtain parted, they saw assembled in the library of the Beverly High School a group of boys and girls cheering for the coming event of all events — the Beverly-Salem football game. But the cheering ceased when the coach entered and announced that Bill Woodberry, the best player on the team, was below in his studies.

Later on in the play the principal announced, to the joy of everyone, that the records of Bill Woodberry of Senior I had been mixed with those of Bill Woodbury of Senior II. This news was received with shouts of joy, and the delightful comedy closed with the group in the library again happily singing, "For Thee Today We're Gathered Here."

The cast of characters was as follows: Mr. Pierce-Herbert Martin; Bill Woodberry-William Burke; Yvonne-Rhoda Murray; Albert-Alvin Mitchell (who did a tap dance); Coach Carroll-Daniel Lowe; Ned-Ottie Brundage; Dorothy-Marcia Knowlton; Daisy-Della Melei; Clara-Barbara Brooks; Ralph-Robert Brown; Neil-Robert Williamson; Peg-Pauline Whitaker; Joan-Jeanne Mackenzie; Blanche-Frances Tosi; The Announcer-Eileen Brophy.

This play was given under the supervision of Miss Marion Coleman and Miss Nellie Harrison, teachers of English.

—MARGUERITE DALEY, *Grade 8.*

HIGHLIGHTS IN BI-WEEKLY ASSEMBLIES

Columbus Assembly

"**S**AIL ON," those inspiring words of Columbus, were the constant cry of Room 23 to the Briscoe pupils at the Columbus Assembly on October 14, the first bi-weekly assembly of the year.

William Scheft, in his original essay on Columbus, told the pupils to follow the high ideals of Columbus. Shirley Robbins recited a poem entitled "Columbus." "Sail On" was heard again in a song which was sung by the entire class. The Columbus Assembly closed with the singing of the "School Song."

This first assembly was announced by Lawrence Rubinstein, and was under the supervision of Miss Eleanor Varney, teacher of mathematics.

Theodore Roosevelt Assembly

THE second bi-weekly assembly, given on Wednesday, October 26, by Room 303, was presented in honor of Theodore Roosevelt's birthday, October 27.

After Frances Toll directed the opening exercises, Pauline Whitaker and Eliza Tre-fry sang a duet entitled, "When the Moon Comes Over the Mountains"; Grace Walker played a piano solo, "Minuet in G"; and Betty Yeo, known as "Briscoe's opera singer," sang "That Old Irish Mother of Mine." Then Marion Weinstein told interesting facts about the life of Theodore Roosevelt; Stephen Woodbury gave the "Creed of Theodore Roosevelt"; and Arlene Whittemore gave a tribute to Theodore Roosevelt. Room 303's harmonica band played two selections, "Old Black Joe" and "Anchors Aweigh."

This assembly was announced by Stephen Woodberry, President of the Advisory Council, and was under the supervision of Miss Alice Hatch, teacher of English.

—HELEN LEWIS, *Grade 8.*

Armistice Day Assembly

ARMISTICE DAY! The pupils of Room 25 of the Briscoe School showed with songs and recitations the great debt we owe to the boys who died in the Great Conflict "over there."

George Olson gave a recitation, entitled "Armistice Day." Pearl Martin recited the well known poem, "Flanders Field." "The Americans Are Coming" was sung by a mixed chorus of boys and girls voices under the direction of Miss Margaret Robbins. The entire audience sang those oft-repeated songs, "There's a Long, Long Trail A-wind-ing," "Pack Up Your Troubles in Your Old Kit Bag," "Smiles," and "Until We Meet Again." Francis Petronzio delivered "A Tribute to an Unknown Soldier." The Armistice Day Proclamation by Governor Ely of Massachusetts was read. This assembly was under the direction of Miss Nell Harrison, teacher of English.

Book Week Assembly

I THINK, Hope, you are old enough to enjoy using the keys to a library so I am going to present you with four of them."

This is a quotation from the play, "The Four Keys to the Library," given at the Book Week Assembly on November 28, by the pupils of Room 37 of the Briscoe School. The four keys were: Mother Dictionary-Anna Gaspar; Admiral Encyclopedia-John Kelleher; Mistress Card Catalog-Lois Huntington; Mr. J. P. Shelves-Paul Hill; Librarian-Helen Holloway. The play was announced by Barbara Hobbs.

Opening exercises were conducted by Margaret Heffernan and Martin Hopkins. Antoinette Gaudenzi gave a recitation, "A Book is an Enchanted Gate."

The assembly was in charge of Miss Edith McCurdy, teacher of history.

—THEODORE DAY, *Grade 8.*

The Mock Trial

THE jury finds the defendant guilty." This was the verdict given by the foreman of the jury at *The Mock Trial* on Wednesday morning, December 7.

The defendants, Matches, Bonfires, Lighting, Gas, Kerosene, Electricity, Rubbish, Defective Chimneys, Gasoline, and Spontaneous Combustion, the ten causes of fire, were brought before the court on the charge of killing children and destroying property. They pleaded not guilty on the grounds that they had been misused. "Carelessness," the real criminal, was convicted and sentenced to be banished from America forever.

The play was given by the pupils of Room 26 and was under the direction of Miss Marion Coleman, teacher of English and penmanship.

Those taking part in the assembly were: Robert Matheson, Donald Leck, Irving Margolis, Leonard Lindberg, Wilfred Lessard, William Lynch, Ruth Knight, Rocco Mascetti, Ruth Lamontagne, Mildred LaFleur, Mildred Markham, Marcia Knowlton, Mildred Lang, Arlene Lang, Louise Martin, Jeanne Mackenzie, Raymond McGinniss.

—WILLIAM BURSAW, *Grade 8.*

Election Day

THE polls at Briscoe opened at eight o'clock on Tuesday morning, October 4, 1932, for the election of Home Room Representatives to form the new Briscoe Advisory Council or Student Government. This Council consists of a boy and a girl from each home room. This election is carried on in a similar manner to an actual municipal election, and is an important event in the school life of the Briscoe pupils.

—NATALIE WEBBER, *Grade 8.*

Honor Roll

BRISCOE again sets before her students the goal for which every pupil strives, the Briscoe Honor Roll. Recognition is gained through hard work and constant study.

Mathematics, English, geography, and history are the major subjects. To receive Major Honors, one must have a rank of "A" in at least two of these subjects, no mark below a "B" in any subject, and satisfactory citizenship ranks.

To receive Honorable Mention, one must have an "A" rank in at least one major subject, no mark below "B", and satisfactory marks in citizenship.

The pupils listed on the Briscoe Honor Roll during the first quarter of 1932 are:

Major Honors—Grade Eight—Ann Bonaventura, Myra Herrick, Helen Houston, Helen Lewis, Jeanne Mackenzie, Della Melei, Priscilla Parsons, William Scheft, Barbara Staples, Frances Toll, Sylvia Yudin.

Major Honors—Grade Seven—Marjorie Broome, Richard Buckley, Virginia Lovett, Ruth MacDonald, William McMahon, Carolyn Merriam, Rhoda Murray, Edward Parkhurst, Whitney Perkins, Shirley Smith, Nancy Stickney, Barbara Stott.

Honorable Mention — Grade Eight —

Marion Bamford, Julio Borsetti, Eileen Brophy, Marguerite Daley, Wilbur Davis, Arlene Dias, Shirley Eldridge, Stanley Jones, Elizabeth Meyer, Evelyn North, Jennie Pizzano, Evelyn Reynolds.

Honorable Mention — Grade Seven —

Edith Gaukroger, Shirley Hubbard, Marion Buckley, Phyllis Gardner, Donald Hillier, Phyllis Lindgren, Geraldine Mountan, Sheldon Norwood, Addison Schade, Ida Ventura, Marguerite Bilodeau, Robert Kilham.

Those pupils attaining Major Honors were awarded a white card with the inscription "Major Honors."

Those pupils receiving Honorable Mention were given blue cards with the inscription "Honorable Mention."

—BARBARA STAPLES, *Grade 8.*

Buy The Briscoe Briefs!

THE December issue of the BRISCOE BRIEFS was the subject of the Ninth Grade Home Room 10 assembly given on Friday, December 16.

The Ninth Grade boys put on a little skit advertising the Christmas number of the magazine. All the good points and new features of this issue were stressed.

The cast was as follows: Salesman, Harlan Foss; Subscriber, Paul Fultz; First Proof Reader, Joseph Filtrante; Second Proof Reader, Roger Coleman; Third Proof Reader, Joseph Gillis; Fourth Proof Reader, Tony Camarda; Fifth Proof Reader, Paul Boisvert; Sixth Proof Reader, Alphonse Arsenault; Messenger, Benjamin Chiplovitz. The announcer of the program was Harlan Foss.

Miss Mary Murray, teacher of English, and faculty director of the Briscoe Briefs, had charge of this assembly.

—THEODORE DAY, *Grade 8.*

Briscoe Home Room Honor Roll

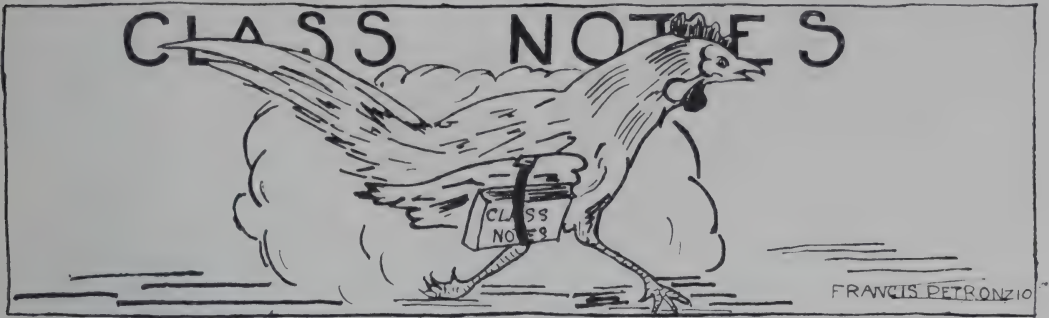
THE following rooms were on the Briscoe Home Room Honor Roll at the end of the first marking period: 1. Thrift—Eighth Grade—Room 203; 2. Attendance—Seventh Grade—Room 24; 3. Citizenship—Seventh Grade—Room 302; 4. Scholarship—Seventh Grade—Room 32; 5. Punctuality—Seventh Grades—Rooms 20 and 27.

—THEODORE C. DAY.

Clubs

THE following clubs were organized this year at Briscoe: Advisory Council, Art, Dramatic, Debating, Boys' and Girls' Glee, Home Economics, Math., Poetry, Safety Council, Stamp, Stage Craft, Wood Working, Travel, Orchestra, and the Briscoe Briefs. The clubs meet after school once every two weeks with the faculty advisers.

—THEODORE DAY, *Grade 8.*



Shop Work

EVERY Tuesday and Thursday morning are shop periods for 8 S. H. Our class is divided so that Mr. Dutelle gets half of the division and Mr. Waite the other half.

In Mr. Dutelle's group most of the boys are taking wood-turning and the rest are making door stops, tables, and other handy things. In Mr. Waite's group the boys have studied electricity, mainly the study of bells.

At present the latter group is learning to set type, the first step in printing.

—GEORGE JANOTTA, *Grade 8.*

A Baseball Game

7-W English class for several weeks has conducted a contest on parts of speech between the boys and the girls.

A point is won by making a home run. For example, Miss Whorff selects a story in which we are to find the nouns. The first girl names the first noun, the next girl, the second noun, and so on until three fail. After three "outs" the chance goes to the boys' side. So far the boys have shown much more skill than the girls.

Studying English in this manner helps those who have difficulty in understanding parts of speech.

—SHIRLEY SMITH, *Grade 7.*

A History Game

EVERY time 7M goes into Miss Hazelton's history class, we wonder what new adventure we shall meet, for history gets more and more interesting every day. One of the things we like best is a history game played as follows:

The class is divided into two groups, the girls in one and the boys in the other. The groups alternate in asking their opponents history questions. Those pupils failing to answer correctly are captured by the opposing side. The side obtaining the larger number of captives wins.

—WARREN BRADLEY, *Grade 7.*

Learning Sea Expressions

FOR literature 8 N.T.C. is studying a real boy's poem called "Tacking Ship Off Shore" by Walter Mitchell.

It is about a ship in a storm off Fire Island. As we read the poem, we see that there are many sea expressions, such as lee-ward, fo'castle, and weather-leech that are new to us, so we look them up in the dictionary. When we have done this, Miss Coleman, our teacher, gives us a vocabulary test. We find it very interesting work.

—ROBERT MATHESON, *Grade 8.*

Christmas Designs

FOR the past few weeks the pupils of 8 THa, directed by Miss Fleet, have been making original designs for Christmas postcards.

First, we drew six triangles, three in a row, and put guide lines in each. We then painted a free hand design in each triangle and added trunks to make them look like Christmas trees.

When they were finished, they were very attractive and were used to decorate book ends, portfolios, book covers, as well as post cards.

This work not only taught us the principles of axial balance design, but also may serve as Christmas gifts.

—ANNA JULIUS, *Grade 8.*

8 N. T. M. Art

ART in Miss Lyon's division is a very busy and happy time, for nearly every pupil likes to paint and sketch.

This year we entered the contest with the other eighth grades to design the book cover for the Annual School Report of Beverly. In making these, we learned orderly arrangement, balance, margins, proportion, and how to print well.

Next, we started creative design and landscape picture painting. The creative designs were made in form of pentagons, a five-sided figure, to illustrate axial and central balance.

The next project was illustrative sketching. Some of these sketches can be seen in this number of BRISCOE BRIEFS, as headings for the various departments.

—ERMA COLLEY, *Grade 8.*

Business Practice

BUSINESS training is given the eighth grade pupils of the Briscoe School to prepare them for future business and to aid them in managing home business affairs.

Our teacher, Miss Baxter, has taught the young business enthusiasts the importance of developing thrifty habits, among which are the keeping of a personal cash account, banking regularly, and economizing in order to purchase a BRISCOE BRIEFS.

Another feature of our work is the study of business words which we use in class discussions, trying to form the habit of talking in a business-like manner.

Recently we have been taught to wrap and address packages, a useful art at this time of year.

Later we shall study common business services as the telephone, telegraph, travel service, and our local directory.

—DONALD LECK, *Grade 8.*

A Trip Through South America

IN Miss Whorff's geography class, 7-C is taking a very exciting trip through South America. Each child has his own notebook which contains pictures and articles about the people, products, and industries of that continent. These are obtained from magazines, newspapers, and books. By means of this imaginary trip we learn much about the capitals, chief industries, and the farm and mine products.

We sailed from New York, through the Panama Canal, and down the west coast of South America, visiting each country in turn. We are greatly interested in the various races of people, the strange animals, and the modes of traveling, but we prefer to live in North America.

—ROMA REED, *Grade 7.*

S. W. Girls

THE S. W. Cooking class, under the direction of Miss Ackerman, has learned to make many nourishing and economical dishes suitable for breakfast.

We had a practice lesson on Parents' Night when many parents attended our class as guests. We made cinnamon rolls, baking powder biscuits, and butterscotch biscuits, which were passed to our visitors, who seemed to appreciate them very much. We are now looking forward to starting our lesson on luncheon menus.

The S. W. Sewing class, under the instruction of Miss Pullen, has learned to darn stockings and to patch clothes. Some of the girls are now making pajamas while others are making slips. Many attractive patterns have been selected for these garments. The girls are hoping to make many other pretty and useful articles before the year is over.

—EVELYN LYNCH, *Grade 8.*

Penmanship

YOU are now listening to Station 7F broadcasting the latest news in Penmanship from Miss Coleman's classroom.

This year we have individual work charts, each of which contains a lesson for every week of the quarter. Our marks are placed in squares in the right corner of each assignment, making it easy for us to find our averages at the end of the quarter. In order to get our names on the Penmanship Honor Roll we must have 90% or over on the paper we do when Miss Adams comes. On the last day of November every member of 7-F had his or her name on the Honor Roll.

—LILLIAN SHAW, *Grade 7-F.*

The Ninth Grade Practical Arts Curriculum

THE seventy or more boys of the ninth grade are enjoying their third year's stay here at Briscoe. The ninth grade is divided into two classes, 9-1 and 9-2. The 9-2 division for the first quarter studied sheet metal work under the direction of Mr. Dutelle. They made scratch gauges, match scratchers, grooved seams, riveted seams, stove pipes, and doughnut cutters.

The second quarter, 9-2 was transferred to auto mechanics under the direction of Mr. Waite. Every boy was assigned a number, and in order to purchase a tool he must give his number, which is stamped on a metal check, to the toolroom boy who keeps it until the tool is returned. Every boy was given a job to do, some to take apart a rear end of a car, others, a steering wheel or engine. Our orders were, "Take them apart and put them together again." After a boy gets his engine apart and replaced correctly, he writes the names of all the parts of the engine in his notebook. Such work is very helpful, for every boy is expecting to own a car some day.

—LLOYD NODDIN, *Grade 9.*

Printing

DURING the first quarter of our school year the 9-1 A boys have had tryout experience in printing. Here they have done such practical jobs as printing of tickets for schools, churches, and other organizations, attendance slips, pass slips, tool room slips, blotters, and cross puzzle solutions.

Each boy has a case of type which he uses to do the work required by Mr. Waite. After a proof of the job has been made and corrected, it is fastened in our note books.

Many of the boys have had an opportunity to handle the presses. There are two hand presses and one power press.

—BENJAMIN CHIPLOVITZ, *Grade 9.*

Shop Work

AT THE beginning of the year our class was divided, a part going to Mr. Dutelle and a part to Mr. Waite.

Mr. Waite's division has learned to construct bells, to splice wire, to solder wire, to wire a 110-volt circuit of one fuse block, one snap switch, and one light receptacle. We also studied fuses, their purposes and use.

At the beginning of the second quarter, we started work in the printing room, learning to set type. A beginner finds the work very confusing because of the similarity of the letters p, d, q, and b.

—LAWRENCE MOORE, *Grade 8.*

History

THREE ships disappear over the horizon Columbus has set sail for India. What will happen to him? Will he reach his destination, or will he perish on the violent seas? We know he did neither of these but discovered a new continent.

7-H thus explores the mysteries of the past in Miss McCurdy's history class. We watch the building of the stately pyramids, sail on the seas with the daring Phœnician captains, visit the Olympic games of Greece, view the gladiatorial contests of Rome, ride with the Great Teutonic chiefs and visit the castles of the Feudal period.

The study of history is both interesting and helpful.

—WHITNEY PERKINS, *Grade 7.*

Typewriting

"CLASS, attention!" This means that Miss Baxter has entered the room.

"Today we will work on drill 6-A on page 4," she continues.

We immediately get down to business and type to the music of the victrola. In this way we learn to type with rhythm. After a ten minute drill of this sort, which is usually a warm-up drill or a review of the previous day's lesson, we do our location drills without the music of the victrola. Then we go on with our exercises by ourselves, which material consists of frequently used words and tests the effectiveness of our drill.

—ELEANOR LEFAVOUR, *Grade 8.*

A Belgian Farm

AS a part of our work in geography, 7 Ha constructed a Belgian farm scene. The farm house, thatched with straw, was made by Isadore Presutti, who followed the instructions of his Belgian grandmother. The gardens were also made by Isadore. The furniture was carved from soap by Amelia Santisi. The figures in the farm yard were loaned by our teacher, Miss Fleet, and by several members of the class. This exhibit may still be seen in Room 32. 7 Ha invites you to examine it at your convenience.

—DELMORE LAFLEUR, *Grade 7.*

Mathematics

MANY people think that mathematics is a difficult subject, but the pupils of 8 T. E. under Miss Eaton's guidance have discovered that there is much fun in it. For instance, we have enjoyed drawing, cutting, and discussing geometric forms. Did you ever stop to think that a can of Campbell's soup represents a cylinder and that grapes are spheres? Have you ever noticed that the dome of the Capitol is a hemisphere and that prisims are often seen on old lamps?

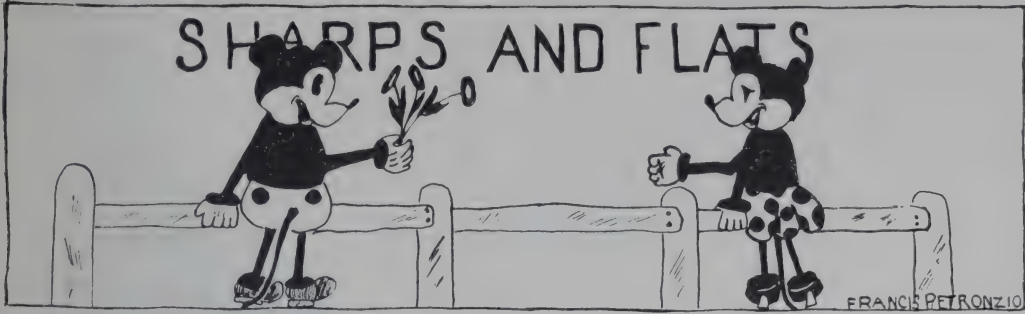
Our notebooks contain many such pictures, which we think aid us considerably in learning the figures of geometry.

—MARJORIE ODELL, *Grade 8.*

Seed Charts

IN science we first studied about the growth of seeds and the many ways in which they are scattered. Miss Anderson then asked us to make charts which would show some of the varieties of seeds. We found the work very fascinating and learned many new things about even the most common weeds. We realized as never before the difference in the habits of plants and in the shapes and sizes of their seeds. The finished charts were very interesting. One of them contained one hundred and two kinds of seeds, while several others had almost as many. Some charts were framed, which made them more durable and greatly added to their appearance.

—EVELYN REYNOLDS, *Grade 8.*



Excuses For No Homework

"Oh! Miss ———, I thought you meant for us to study, not to write it."

"Oh! I left it in my homeroom." (Hoping you won't be sent there to get it.)

"I lost my paper so I couldn't do it."

"I didn't hear you assign us anything."

(Note: These excuses have been tried, but have failed. If anyone has discovered one that works, kindly let us know.)

—THOMAS FITZGIBBONS, *Grade 8.*

Gum Costs One Cent!

"Patsy, have you something in your mouth?" asked a teacher at Briscoe School.

Patsy, with a big grin on his face, answered, "Yes."

"What is it?"

"Gum," said the culprit, still grinning.

"Patsy, don't you know you shouldn't chew gum in school?" asked the teacher.

"You know the penalty, do you not? Come, put the gum into the waste basket."

Patsy, the smile gone from his face, walked slowly down the aisle and went to the basket. He looked at the class, then at his gum, then put it reluctantly into the basket.

"Why do you look so sad?" asked the teacher.

"That gum cost me one cent!" said Patsy glumly.

—NATALIE WEBBER, *Grade 8.*

Nonsense Poems

1.

I'd rather have fingers than toes,
I'd rather have ears than a nose,
And as for my hair,
I'm glad it's all there,
I'll be awfully sad when it goes!

2

Remarkable, truly, is art!
See the wheels on that old-fashioned cart!
It looks very fair
In the picture up there;
But imagine the ride when you start!

—JEANNE MACKENZIE, *Grade 8.*

A Million Dollar Fern

The fern in the art room at the Briscoe School is so beautiful that the teacher values it highly. It is in front of the desk so that she can keep her eye on it. The teacher thinks it is the most wonderful fern in the world. Whenever anyone is near it, she exclaims, "Please keep away from that fern." Everyone thinks this fern is just too marvelous for words, and they always try to avoid it.

—CHESTER MACAULEY, *Grade 8.*

Skyscraper

Small boy gazing up at Paul Fultz, "Hey, Paul, how is the air up there?"

Eight O'clock

When one is going on the stage, one becomes very hungry. I was so hungry once at seven-thirty that I ate (8) o'clock and the curtain came down with a roll!

In English

Teacher: Hawkins, what is a synonym?

Hawkins: Er, it's a word you use in place of another which you don't know how to spell.

Nice Fire

As our assignment for homework was to write a joke, I made one up and told it to my family. Not one of them laughed, so I put it into the stove and the fire roared!

—ALVIN MITCHELL, *Grade 8.*

In Spelling

Teacher: What is an engine?

Pupil: A red man.

From Home

Small Brother: Do you know what *beseenya* means?

Big Brother: There isn't such a word.

Small Brother: Sure there is. I'll be *seenya*.

Poor Abused Dictionary

A class was having a spelling lesson and the teacher said to them, "If you are in doubt about the spelling of any word, always consult the dictionary."

She saw a boy whom she thought was not paying attention, so she said, "James, tell me what I have just said."

James replied, "If you are in doubt about the spelling of any word, insult the dictionary."

"A Word to the Wise"

"Oh, dear!" sighed a yellow pencil in the Lost and Found drawer of Mr. Cronin's office. "When I was first put in here, I thought it was grand to have a rest. I really am a sight, dented and scarred, because I was in Johnny's mouth all the time. When he broke my point, he would grind me unmercifully in the pencil sharpener, but it's so dull here I am longing to be back working for him again."

"Well, I'm not," said the pen. "He drops me on the floor to see if I won't stand up. Doesn't he know that it hurts? He viciously digs me into his paper, and when the teacher remarks that his writing is not good, he innocently blames it on me."

"You're not the only one that is abused," said the ruler. "Johnny carves letters on me with his knife and raps me on the desk."

Soon after this conversation took place, Johnny appeared at the office to inquire if his pen, pencil, and ruler had been found.

Mr. Cronin handed them to him and said, "If you don't take better care of these, it will be necessary for you to buy your own."

Johnny gulped and answered faintly, "Yes, Mr. Cronin," and hurried out of the office with his belongings tightly grasped in his hand.

"A word to the wise is sufficient, I hope," mumbled the pen and ruler.

—HELEN HOUSTON, *Grade 8.*

Miss H. read a joke to her class. She then asked, "Why was it funny?"

D. L.: "Because it was a joke."



"Bodger" Carroll

THE Briscoe Junior High School did not have a football team this year because the Beverly High School Athletic Association felt they could not afford to equip a full team. This year they had a large, unexpected expense of five hundred dollars to move the grand stands. Naturally, then, our attention was turned toward Beverly High School's football team and its coach.

Coach "Bodger" Carroll, through his ingenuity, developed a fine team this year at Beverly High School. His close companionship and knowledge of boys made this possible. He is admired by every boy, and when he gives a command it is just as if the boy's father or mother had spoken. His character, personality, and career make him a model for all boys. He is known to everyone for his sportsmanship and knowledge of sports.

In a recent edition of *Collier's Magazine*, a nation-wide publication, an article was written with regard to the physical welfare of football players, and "Bodger" Carroll and Beverly were cited as a fine example of the proper care given boys by a coach and school.

Coach Carroll is always ready to help any boy and has never been known to employ any harsh methods in training them for a game. His record at Beverly is deserving of a great deal of praise, having won thirteen games, lost three, and tied four. This record, however, does not begin to tell how fine a man "Bodger" Carroll really is.

WILLIAM SCHEFT, *Grade 8.*

Basketball

BASKETBALL is the sport that interests most pupils at Briscoe. The program for the coming season will be much the same as last year. The home rooms voted to have the teams chosen from the classes. Therefore, the eighteen curricular classes at Briscoe will select teams to represent them in the inter-class games.

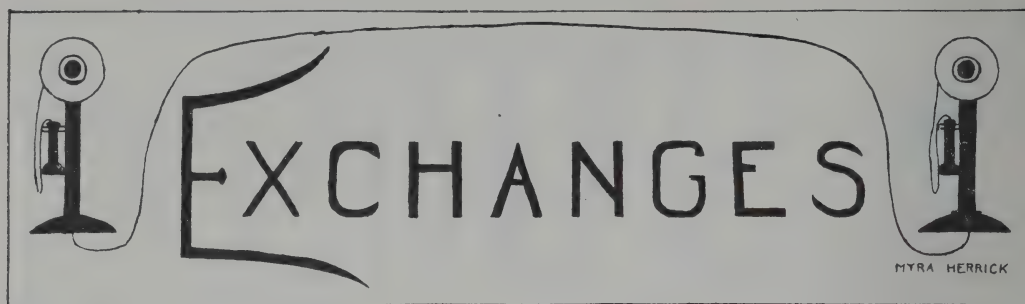
The seventh grade teams will alternate with the eighth grade teams, playing every other week. The girls will play in the gym from 1.00 to 1.30 p. m., and the boys from 3.30 to 4.00 p. m. The rules will be posted shortly, and Mr. Cronin, principal of the Briscoe School, intends to start the games immediately after the Christmas vacation.

The two Practical Arts ninth grade teams will practice daily from 2.00 to 3.30 p. m. They are planning to enter the Beverly Junior Church League tournament.

ROBERT STONE, *Grade 8.*

Physical Exercises on Tuesdays and Thursdays

THE pupils of the Briscoe School look with eagerness to Tuesdays and Thursdays, because on those days we have our physical exercise periods. On Tuesday, Miss Boehm teaches the seventh grade boys and girls the exercises and games; and on Thursday, Mr. Mackenzie teaches the eighth grade pupils. We appreciate these periods and wish they could be longer and come every day.



WE were pleased to receive the following school magazines, as an exchange of ideas is always necessary for the growth of any school project.

The Wolf, The Wolf Junior High School, Easton, Pennsylvania. Your School Notes containing accounts of assemblies and clubs were most interesting.

Pick Events, Pickering Junior High School, East Lynn, Mass. We are glad to have your magazine and newspaper among our exchanges. Congratulations on your steady growth.

The Lincolnian, Lincoln Junior High School, Portland, Maine. Your editorials are excellent. The Literature Department has a historical flavor.

The Aegis, Beverly High School, Beverly, Massachusetts. Your November issue, devoted to football, was very seasonable. The Briscoe pupils certainly enjoyed the football stories and poems, and found the history of football most interesting.

The Arrow, Junior High School of Chisholm, Minnesota. You have an attractive cover, striking wood cuts, and well arranged pages.

Parker Quill, Walter S. Parker Junior High School, Reading, Massachusetts. Your poetry is well written.

The Shulton, S. E. Shull Junior High School, Easton, Pennsylvania. Your Mystery Issue is very interesting with its appropriate cuts and good stories.

The Tiot Junior, Norwood Junior High School, Norwood, Mass. Your Home Room Notes are clever.

The Early Trainer, Lawrence Junior High School, Lawrence, Mass. The make-up of your school magazine is most attractive.

—LURANA WALDRON, Grade 8.

Humor from Other Schools

While reading some of our interesting exchanges, I found the following amusing bits. What Briscoe student can translate this from the *Parker Quill*?

Le Petit Jean

Jean e'tait le fils d'un chimiste,
Maintenant Jean n'est plus,
Ce que Jean pensa e'tait H2O
E'tait H2SO4.

From the *Lincolnian*, I have copied this anecdote:

Open Sesame

The teacher had been reading the story of *Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves* to her class of small boys. When she reached the end, she closed the book and proceeded to question them regarding the story.

"Now, can anyone tell me," she said, "what Ali Baba said when he wished to open the entrance to the cave?"

One child, an ardent film fan, promptly replied, "Open, sez me!"

—THOMAS FITZGIBBONS, Grade 8.

At Ropes'

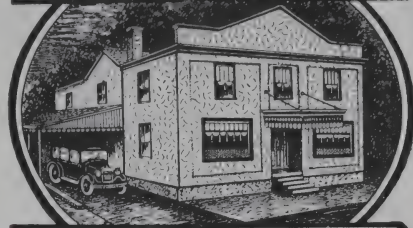
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